

Camp Near Cedar Creek  
Virginia, Oct 2, 1864

Dear Mother,

I *recieved* your letter of the 8<sup>th</sup>, the 18<sup>th</sup>, but did not have time to answer it, for the Johnnies attacked us the morning of the 19<sup>th</sup>, as you have heard probably before this.

They drove us back from here about four miles and would have driven us clear to Harpers Ferry had not Genl S hurried (who was about at the time of the attack) arrived as he did.

When he got here found his army all on a ground "*skidaddle*" but he very soon rallied them and found them in line and we charged them and got the [?] and drove them back a great deal quicker than they came, and before ~~dar~~ dark we occupied our old camps that they came, and before dark we occupied our old camps that they drove us from in the morning.

We followed them up that night through Strasburgh to Fischers Hill. We expected to have to fight them the next morning æ but did not for they never stopped our cavalry follow them up all day. We took most all of their artillery from them and a great many prisoners, how many I don't know, but I do know that we captured 49 pieces of artillery for we ~~the~~ have it hauled up in [?] right here near our camp but twenty pieces of it they captured in the morning from us. I don't think old Early will trouble us much more here in the valley right away.

Our Regt. lost 115 killed and wounded and Jerry was wounded. William Burch was taken prisoner. We buried 17 of our Regt. the next day after we got back, all in one grave, not but a few rods from camp. Our Regt. is getting to be quite small out of the 1000 that we left Norwich with. We have 140 left and have *recieved* over a hundred recruits. I am the only one left that came from L— and vicinity except *Elijha* St John. I *recieved* your letter of the 17<sup>th</sup> yesterday you did not tell what Hopsp. Harrison was in or I would write to him. He probably will be home before long.

I am well. Give my love to all and write soon.

From your affect son,

J. F. Brand

P.S.

*Pleas* send me some postage stamps.

J. F. B.